



Talisman ...

A Unique New-Age Shop

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<http://blog.ctnews.com/lenhard>

October 2, 2009

Merry Samhain Greetings!

Ooooh boy, here we are - it's October, and Halloween is coming at last! This is one of the best times of the year, and we have some wonderful events planned throughout the month at Talisman. A couple of these have limited seating, so please RSVP at your earliest convenience.

Samhain is perhaps the most widely recognized of the pagan festivals, celebrated by pagan and Christian alike as the holiday of Halloween. In Mexico the period is a joyful celebration known as Los Dias de las Muertos, "The Days of the Dead"; in Catholic countries the festival of All Saints and All Souls is a solemn remembrance of the deceased. Typical Halloween activities such as wearing costumes, "trick or treating" and carving pumpkins are likely remnants of pagan rites from long ago. Early communities certainly made offerings to the dead and to the fairies, which they believed would expect gifts on that night. This later developed into the tradition of "guising" which entailed gangs of youths visiting each household in turn to beg for food, money or firewood for the bonfire. With the emigration of many Irish and Scots to America, the tradition evolved again into its present incarnation. The custom of lighting torches and lanterns is probably the oldest of all. Flaming torches would have provided strong sympathetic magic for those trying to drive away unwelcome fairies or spirits. The addition of frightening carved faces would have made the lanterns all the more effective.

Samhain is considered the best time for divination because it falls at a great turning point of the year: the boundary between the worlds is more diffuse and access to other realms is easier. In Wicca, Samhain is the time when witches believe the veil separating the worlds is at its most transparent and when we honor and remember our dead. Wiccans do not actively try to summon or call back the dead in the same manner as spiritualists holding seances, but rather make the ancestors welcome - should they care to come! It is a lovely custom to create an altar to our beloved dead. This can be a tabletop or mantle display of pictures along with trinkets or objects that the deceased held dear - for example, a picture of a beloved pet next to one or two favorite toys or a worn collar. This is an opportunity to reaffirm the special bond and place in one's heart the person or pet continues to hold. A time to celebrate life, rather than mourn its

passing ... secure in the knowledge we are always connected.

Now, let's finish up our discussion of the Chakras (remember, you can reference the first six from previous newsletters kept archived on the website) as we have finally come to the seventh, or Crown Chakra. The qualities of the Crown Chakra are spirituality, beauty and bliss. This chakra opens the realm of higher thinking to us. Here we see the entire picture and move beyond the petty details of life. It has the spiritual dimension that teaches us to consider the origin of conflict, and to see with our heart as well as our head. It is able to put things into perspective. This Chakra opens when we have attained psychological maturity and spiritual development. The opening of the Crown Chakra coincides with a time in our lives when we may have to face several difficult personal choices and external life challenges. These ultimately bring up spiritual insights and a greater sense of what we are capable of and what our higher purpose might be. For many, such realizations are often seen as a form of "midlife" crisis - enlightenments often lead us to reject what we have been, in pursuit of what we could become.

The Crown Chakra is located at the top of the head, and is connected to the Pineal gland which secretes melatonin and other hormones known to affect tranquility, menses, sleep and light sensitivity. Its color is violet; associated essential oils are violet, lavender, lotus and elemi; crystals are amethyst and alexandrite; metal is platinum and plant is the lotus flower. Staying grounded in your body helps to stabilize the Crown Chakra. Never try to force open this chakra - like the lotus flower, it will flower naturally, when you are ready to accept it. The more we attune our awareness to the ultimate truth of a higher power, the freer we become to live in joy, harmony, and serenity. Honoring the spirit permits us to experience gratitude for who we are and how life unfolds. We learn we are never alone and that we are guided, loved and protected at all times. To learn more about opening the Crown Chakra, please see last weeks' blog entitled "Kundalini, Rise of the Cobra" at <http://blog.ctnews.com/lenhard/>.

New At Talisman:

Spell Bottles: Each of Csilla's bottles are uniquely and intricately crafted in both magick and art. They can be crafted for any area of your life, such as relief from depression, help with finances, sleepless children, happy home life, help with studies, opening of new doors in your life, getting over that ex. etc. Meditating, or holding the bottle while concentrating on the desired outcome or purpose will blend the spells' energies with your own. They make very pretty additions to your altar or personal space, while adding a little magick to your life! Price Range \$15-\$40 (custom bottles available upon request).

Just In from Montserrat: Talisman has been carrying Montserrat's handcrafted candles from the time we opened, and we just got a new shipment in! She recently expanded her line to include goddess, archangel and crystal healing wands. These powerful little healing tools measure approx. 2 1/2 inches long. They are made up of two glass vials, the smaller of which contains a crystal to amplify the energy of the stones contained in the larger vial. \$30. Also, pendants filled with water from the ancient red spring that flows through the Gardens of the Chalice Well in Glastonbury. People have traveled to this sacred place for thousands of years seeking the healing essence that is held within

the waters. The energy that emerges from this place is one of deep peace, healing and support. This powerful glass bottle pendant measures approximately 1 and 1/8 inches. Suspended in the Chalice Well Water is a little 5mm Herkimer Diamond. This combination is said to have spiritual healing properties. Wear it, or anoint yourself and objects with it. \$30

Special Request:

I have begun writing a book - The Talisman Grimoire - and need help to finish. I am asking everyone who would like to participate to forward to me their favorite spell(s) or magickal working/ritual for inclusion in the Grimoire (with credit given, of course). It can be very simple or quite elaborate - but please, only send those you have personal experience with! An example of a ritual might be a seasonal tradition (folk magic) or divination technique. In my family, it was traditional to burn a bayberry candle to the wick on New Year's Eve to bring in prosperity and good fortune. We also ate ham on New Year's Day - because a fowl scratches backward, but a pig roots (or pushes) forward. The book can only truly be called "Talisman's Grimoire" if in fact our family, friends and patrons take part in its completion! I plan to have this published and sold exclusively at the shop - and please know that our online store is currently under construction!

EVENTS

October 3rd: New-Age Fest 12:00-6:00pm

A magical gathering of intuitives and healers at Talisman. Readings \$25/20 min. or \$40/aura photography (cash payment requested).

Debbie Atwood: A former Wall Street Trader, she is a staff Member of the Smoking Gun Research Agency as a Intuitive Investigator/ Case Manager in the field of Parapsychology. A Reiki Healer/Intuitive reader, she utilizes the Tarot of The Moon Garden deck as well as regular playing cards. As a young adult, Debbie worked closely for several years as a student with reknowned Psychic Medium Ruth Burnett, most famous for her work with local police departments. She has studied with members of the Micmaq Tribe, Big Cove New Brunswick CA., as well as some Lakota Influence. Her native name is Mistydawn.

Rachel: An animal communicator, she doesn't need need the animal present (although they are certainly welcome) because while it's nice to meet the animal, the physicality can be distracting when I read. I use simple information from the person to communicate with the animal's higher intelligence. Usually the name, age and breed is all I need. I do ask for questions as a way to direct the session. After a simple meditation, I basically have a chat with them. I can get all sorts of interesting details that comes in the way that particular animal communicates - through words, pictures or feelings. I can talk to pets living or deceased, domestic or wild, asking anything the animal would know ... it's from their perspective.

Pina "The Lady of the Light" She is an Oracle Psychic Medium. Blessed as a child with many gifts, Pina does Angelic Readings. She follows her spiritual path through this life using her gifts to help others. Pina is a Psychic Consultant with the Connecticut Paranormal Research Society and does readings in New York and Connecticut. Pina works with the Angelic Realm to help and advise.

Barbara DeLong: Has been working professionally in the field since the early 70's along

with being a full time special education teacher and a single parent. In the 80's she began painting personal Mandala's for friends. Since that time her paintings and the life readings that go with them are now worldwide with over four hundred of them in countless private collections. These individual paintings evolved into the second circular deck published called The Cosmic Deck of Initiation. The deck was published in 1991 and since then thousands have been purchased. Barbara toured the country with the deck for over five years demonstrating them at conventions and book stores nationwide (and soon available at Talisman as well). Barbara has done Radio and television, conventions and is listed in Hans Holzer's book, The Psychic Yellow Pages; the very best psychics, card readers, astrologers, and numerologists. Her readings come from a very spiritual background and are focused on giving the individual understanding of the pathway they are on and positive insight on how to enable the creative energies within to expand on the human experience. The readings give a 12 month glimpse and go from the mundane to the magical. Barbara is also an ordained Minister and for the past five years (2003-08) conducted services at a local Spiritualist church along with rotating ministers - from which her platform mediumship was inspired. Her website www.barbaradelong.com is a teaching site; along with spiritual material there is personal information as well as predictions for the energies of every day in the year. **Aura Photography** by Tim Bshara of A Healing Hand. A session lasts 20 minutes and include a verbal discussion of the aura and chakras plus the client takes home a 20+ page report. \$40 (appointment recommended 261-0047).

Chair Massage by Tammie, licensed Massage Therapist, from 12:00 to 5:00 \$1/minute. Five or ten minutes spent in Tammie's chair will leave you relaxed for the rest of the day ... everyone who tries it comes back again and again!

October 3: Channeled Full Moon Meditation with Barbara DeLong 7:00 pm. At the full of the moon the spiritual energies are at their peak of intensity, a perfect time to experience a meditation focused on our inner passions and strengths. Barbara will lead us through a channeled experience, using the energy of the full moon to bring enlightenment and wisdom from the lunar energies. The full moon opens the door to the understandings of some of the mysteries we hold within. There will also be a chance to get and share brief messages (channeled by Barbara - everyone will get a message from Spirit) at the close of the evening. \$10/seating limited to 20. There is still room! RSVP 261-0047

October 17th: 11:00-5:00 Bern Richards will be conducting readings and healings. A 30 minute reading is \$40; 60 minutes is \$60 and a one hour Feather Healing is \$75.00. A reading with Bern does not address prophecy or the suggestion of future events, although most interesting insights from pasts and future do unfold quietly in a session. It's more about the animal/bird linkups from soul recognitions to synchronistic events experienced by each individual. There's wonderful magic in opening one's self to the medicine energies to explore your personal journey. Bern keeps notes during the

session, so an individual can remain calm and natural in thought and most receptive to the moment. - the notes are presented to you after the reading, useful for future reflections. Bern uses medicine cards, soul cards and feather omen cards in his Nature Card readings. In the half-hour reading, cards are divined (4) for a proverb or statement you are presently walking beside, you learn your Life Path number (numerology), and an Arrow spread or Sacred Mountain spread is done for direction. In the hour reading, this is expanded to include the animals and natural aspects influencing you since birth through the present.

A feather healing session includes placement of feathers you've divined; a rattle journey to a Nest in a Magical Tree to visit an elder for a Gift; chakra balancing and energy work (much like someone might do with Reiki or Stone healing) only Bern uses feathers since he serves the teachings of his Grandmother Esther, Mother Katherine, and Grandfather Black Elk. He waits for their direction and functions as their vehicle and their bridge.

From 2:00-3:00 p.m. there will be 1 hour devoted to the making of "love bundles". Bern will furnish the materials....sage, cedar, tobacco & sweetgrass; fabric & 1 feather (to take your prayers/thoughts higher). There's a request for a \$10 donation per person but in lieu of \$ you may wish to bring fabric or any of the other "fixin's" mentioned. RSVP 261-0047. Details: We share a quiet meditation, a short talk about the evolution of Bern's "love bundle"....and then we make 1 bundle together to send forth Love into the universe for healing, comforting, balance and cleansing. You may know of the recipient you have in mind or he/she may be journeying toward you presently....it's a Standing Tall One (tree) or it's your dear pet, etc. You'll know when you hear the knock on your door....that's the time to listen....then to "giveaway". Mitakuye oyasin....we are One. Brother Bern

Chair Massage by Tammie, licensed Massage Therapist, from 12:00 to 5:00 \$1/minute.

Oct. 17: Smoking Gun Research Agency:Real Monsters Presentation 6-8pm
Tis the season when vampires, witches, goblins and ghouls will soon be walking the streets, but one can't help but wonder if there is anything more to these creatures than just dressing up one day a year. This presentation, "Monsters: The Real Legend & Lore" will prove that there is far more to the history of these creatures than just nifty Halloween costumes, and the real stories will be sure to surprise (and maybe even scare) you! Attendees get a copy of "Monsters: The Official Field Investigator's Guide." Cost \$10.00 (includes book). RSVP by calling Talisman at (203)261-0047.

October 24: Reiki II 9:30-6:00 (9:30 is arrival-class starts at 10:00).
Taught by Cathy Kane, Cost is \$200. Reiki (also known as Usui Reiki) is an energyworking system originating in Japan , involves using a divine pool of energy to remind and support the body in using its own natural ability to heal itself. Reiki has other uses (such as manifestation), and has built-in safety measures that protect the practitioner from doing harm or depleting himself in the process. Angelic Reiki (originally channeled to Kathie Valentine) is an enrichment of the Reiki system and is offered at no additional charge as part of all Reiki classes Cathy teaches. Catherine

Kane has been a teaching master of Reiki since 1996 . She loves to teach, especially things like Reiki that have made her life and the lives of so many others better. In her classes, you'll get demonstration and practice, as well as theory, and she continues her availability post-class to answer questions. If you have taken Reiki I and want to advance further, this may be the class for you. RSVP at (203) 261-0047 (Talisman) or for more information, contact Catherine Kane at we_are_foresight@yahoo.com.

SGRA Coffee Talk

Takes place every Friday @ 6pm - Free drinks & snacks (donations welcome). Great for ages 14+

October 2 – Famous Haunts: We discuss the Top 10 most famous places around the world that have a long and haunted history.

October 9 – Ghostly Technology: We're going to talk about - and demonstrate - some of the equipment that is used by our Field Team when investigating (never "hunting!") ghosts.

October 16 – Ghost Slide Show: Check out a slide show presentation of images taken directly from the SGRA's Ghost Investigation Archives.

October 23 – Types of Ghosts: The term "ghost" has become so overused. Is it a residual haunting, an intelligent spirit, a psychic impression, or a dimensional being? Do you not know those terms? Join us to find out about the different types of ghosts.

Scheduled Readers **(Cash payment requested)**

Starr: Angel Readings on Thursdays 4:00-7:00 pm (or by appointment) \$30/20 minutes or ask question \$1/minute.

Lina: Intuitive Counseling on Sundays by appointment (261-0047) \$50/45 minutes

Oct. 3rd: New Age Fest 12-6; Readings \$25/20 min. Aura Photography \$40.

Oct. 10th: Elpida, Greek Coffee Readings \$30/30 min.

Oct. 17th: Gwen, Whole-Life Tarot (may include some past life issues) 12:00-6:00 \$25/20 minutes. Tammie Barletta, licensed Massage Therapist, 12-5 \$1/min.

Oct. 24th: Donna, Herbal tarot (Shammanic, includes personalized mojo bag) 2:00 - 7:00 \$25/20 minutes

Drop-In Meditation every Wednesday 6-7 pm - donation \$5. Age 16 and over.

Saturday, October 31 - Samhain (Halloween) Celebration!

SGRA/Talisman party with refreshments, treats for tricksters in costume, presentations, readings, raffle, movies and more!!! Festivities continue from 11:00 am til Midnight!

1:00 p.m. Real Ghost Stories of Connecticut (SGRA)

4:00 p.m. The Haunted History of Halloween (SGRA)

6:00 p.m. After Dark Party

6-8 p.m. Mediumship with Barbara DeLong & Pina

We've done the "Evening of Mediumship" before at Talisman and we'd like to try it again with two gifted Mediums, both of whom will bring their combined talents to this forum in "John Edwards" style. Both are listed in the Oct. 3rd New-Age Fest earlier in this notice. Please remember that not everyone may hear from Spirit but these events are always amazing regardless. Cost \$20 Seating limited to 25 - cash payment due in advance (to prevent no-shows). Call 261-0047 to make reservation.

9:00 p.m. **Rocky Horror Picture Show.** Yup, bring your water pistols etc. - and let's do the time warp ... again!!!

11:00 pm **Classic Horror Movie(s)**

The Samhain Sabbat celebrates the eternal cycle of reincarnation and marks the beginning of the Celtic winter. This Samhain chant sums it up best:

*'Tis the time of death that will have an end,
let life return, life without end.
Open body and spirit wide,
for tonight is the change of the tide.
As we have welcomed death with all our hearts,
now we embrace life as death departs.*

So remember the past - but always, always embrace life!

Wishing you all the most Happiest of Halloweens,
Laura & Roy